

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 163

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Anderson County High School football team, TSSAA Division I, Class 4A state champions.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors for this State; and

WHEREAS, the Anderson County High School football team achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2022 season, winning the coveted Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Division I, Class 4A State Football Championship; and

WHEREAS, the Anderson County Mavericks vanquished every opponent for an undefeated season on their way to the BlueCross Bowl championship game on December 3, 2022, at Finley Stadium in Chattanooga, where they beat Pearl Cohn in a hard-fought battle 34-30 in the title matchup; and

WHEREAS, led by Most Outstanding Player Gavin Noe, the Mavs rallied after halftime to take their first lead of the game in the third quarter when he crossed the goal line to score on a fourth and goal to go up by a score of 27-24; Maverick quarterback Walker Martinez hit teammate Bryson Vowell on a sixteen-yard touchdown pass to make it 34-24; and

WHEREAS, Pearl Cohn fought back to make it 34-30 in the fourth quarter, but the young men of Anderson County sealed the victory with an interception by Bryson Vowell and thus secured the right to hoist the iconic gold football trophy; and

WHEREAS, the victory saw Anderson County High School claim its first football state championship in school history on their first trip to the championship game as they ended the season with a perfect record of 15-0; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Anderson County Mavericks enjoyed the services of an outstanding coaching staff led by Head Coach Davey Gillum, who instilled in these exceptional young men a commitment to excellence in all that they do and encouraged maximum effort on the football field; and

WHEREAS, the Mavericks' heart and determination were exhibited as they advanced through the football playoffs, perhaps best exemplified by their 29-13 victory over Red Bank in the state semifinals, where they scored twenty-nine unanswered points after halftime; and

WHEREAS, state championships are achieved only through hard work, dedication, and the ability to work together as a team and excel with a cooperative spirit; the Mavericks exhibited each of these rare qualities during their championship season; and

WHEREAS, the football players of Anderson County High School epitomize all that is good in today's student athletes, as they have achieved the highest level of success on the field while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the field; they inspired their fellow students and united the entire community during their triumphant run through the 2022 season; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship football season but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the football players of Anderson County High School for serving as exemplars of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the players, coaching staff, team support staff, administrators, cheerleaders, and fans of the Anderson County High

School football team on winning the 2022 TSSAA Division I, Class 4A State Football Championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.